Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Not house construction schemes.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of granting priority to the labour classes of Mattancheri?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Public Health):* We will consider.

Mr. V. R. Kishnan Ezhutaassan *(Oorakam):* Has the Government really studied the scheme?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Public Health):* Certainly.

PORKULAM VILLAGE PANCHAYAT OFFICE

141. Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

whether orders were passed for shifting Porkulam Village Panchayat Office from the present building in which it is housed now?

Mr. K. Balakrishna Menon *(Minister for Development):*

No.

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether any resolution has been passed by the Panchayat requesting the removal of the Panchayat Office?

Mr. K. Balakrishna Menon *(Minister for Development):* I do not find anything on the record. I have to confess that I do not know anything regarding such a resolution.

CORRUPTION—CASES OF

142. Mr. K. Kochukuttan *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to answer the following.—

(*a*) are the Government obtaining monthly statements of corruption from the various departments;

(*b*) what is the total number of cases of corruption reported so far this year;

(*c*) have any special agency been set up by the Government to detect cases of corrup ion among Government officials?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 12.

(*c*) No.

Mr. K. Kochukuttan *(Nominated):* May I know whether the Government has taken any action against these 12 persons?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. P. A. Mohamad Ashrof *(Cranganur):* May I know whether there is any departmental head involved in it.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* None of them are departmental heads.

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know what is the total amount involved in this corruption matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* It is very difficult to compute it like that. In certain cases it was the taking of very small bribes, in one or two cases it was misappropriation and falsification of accounts, in certain other cases it is detention of persons unnecessarily.

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know which are the departments concerned?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Excise, Police, Municipalities, Education, Agriculture and Military Welfare.

Mr. M. K. Raja *(Mulakunnathukavu):* It is stated that there is no special agency to detect cases of corruption. May I know if it is the intention of the Government to set up a separate agency?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* At present, the departmental heads are to look into the matter but when we appoint a new committee, that committee can make suitable suggestions if they find that the present arrangements are not satisfactorily working.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the Madras Government have not appointed a secret section of officers to find out cases of corruption, whose appointments are not known and whose names are not known. Are the Government aware of such a practice?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I think there is an arrangement like that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the Government will be pleased to fall in line with the Madras practice?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* When we appoint a new Committee it will be for them to suggest what all remedies are to be found out in this State.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* May I know whether the Government are taking note of reports appearing in newspapers about these corruptions?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Is it a fact that there are only 12 such cases, reported in newspapers?

Mr. President: Order, order. The question does not refer to newspaper articles at all.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether in the various cases reported where some departments were mentioned, is not the textile department one ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Goverment):* It is not in this list.

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* What was the offence in the Military Welfare Department and has any action been taken?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* About that alone I have not full details.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* May I know when this Committee is going to function?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* When the permanent Chief Justice returns.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* May we take it that immediately after his return the Committee will be constituted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Quite so.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Are these twelve cases still pending?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* All of them have been disposed of.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* In what manner?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* In one case both the peons were removed from service. In another the constable was dismissed. The Food department case is under investigation. In the case of the Agricultural Deparment it was dismissal, in the case of the Ernakulam Municipality the officer was suspended, in the case of the Education Department, removal from service with compassionate gratuity equivalent to 10 months' pay, in another case it was suspension for three months and in the case of an excise peon he was removed from service and the case of another is under investigation.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether there was any case in which the culprit was prosecuted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Departmental action alone was taken against the delinquents.

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know why action under the Cochin Penal Code was not taken in these cases ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* The cases reported so far did not deserve such action being taken.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, what is the exact amount that has been misappropriated?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Unfortunately I have not got that information as to the exact amount involved in the case.

Choudhury G.S. Dhara Singh *(Mattancheri):* The persons concerned are all peons and no higher officers are involved in these cases.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* We cannot say that the head-master of the Malayalam School, Vadakkumkara, the Thalappally Taluk welfare worker, and the Agricultural Inspectors are petty people. The rest are peons and constables.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the case of the subordinate officers and peons, Sir, the departmental head makes the enquiry. May I know who makes the report in the case of a Departmental Head going astray and whether any report, Sir, is made at all or is it a premium for being a Departmental Head?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* In the case of a Departmental Head, it will be brought to the notice of the Government in many ways.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether any departmental head, minor or major, has been involved in cases of corruption?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Then, Sir, we will give you some information.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* Does the Government think that falsification of accounts is a small offence?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* We do not say it is a small offence. He was removed from service. The only thing is he was given a compassionate gratuity. People sometimes are removed from service giving proportionate pension and sometimes by giving compassionate gratuity.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* May I know whether there has been any prosecution in any of the cases just now mentioned?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Departmental action alone was taken in all these cases.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* Can the Government be satisfied, especially in cases where falsification of accounts has occurred, with such sort of punishment?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* It was thought that this would be sufficient.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Are the Government sure that there are only 12 cases?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, why the Government are not dealing with these miscreants under the Penal Code?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* In these cases Government thought that this action was sufficient.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ ഉദ്യോഗക്കയറ്റം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ കൈക്കൂലി വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിലുള്ള സാമർത്ഥ്യം ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ക്വാളിഫിക്കേഷനായിട്ട് കരുതീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. President: The question is not in order.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know.....

Mr. President: Order, order.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I am not putting his question. I am on my legs to put some other question.

May I know, Sir, whether in recent months an officer about whom very stringent allegations of corruption were made repeatedly in the columns of several newspapers of Cochin has been given a change of department which virtually amounts to a promotion? Are the Government aware of that, Sir? Please don't force me to give the name.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I cannot follow his question, Sir.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* My question I will repeat, Sir, Whether the Government are aware or whether the Government are not aware of a recent change of department of a departmental head about whom in the columns of the Cochin newspapers there were very strong and long and repeated accusations of corruption made?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I do not know, Sir. It is a vague insinuation which I cannot answer.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I shall just give, Sir, a broad hint about the thing. My question refers to the Textiles Department. I stop there.

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